ADDRESS

OF

THE RT. REV. THEODORE B. LYMAN, D. D.,

TO THE

SIXTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA,

MAY 24TH, 1883.

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Address of the Bishop.

Dear Brethren of the Clergy and Laity:

Another year has run its course, and with thankfulness to God, I record the fact that we meet, in Convention, with the ranks of our Clergy unbroken by the shafts of the great Destroyer. Several of our brethren have removed to other fields, and others have come to cast in their lot among us. The year has been, on the whole, an encouraging one for the Church in this Diocese. I have gone over a very large portion of the field committed to me, and have found in almost every direction a steady, onward progress. Rapid growth we cannot reasonably look for at present. Our State is not one into which any tide of population is setting, and therefore we have no just grounds to anticipate any such advance, as is found in many of our Northern and Western States, where all the outward conditions are so very different.

Upon the close of our last Convention, I went immediately forward to complete my visitation in the Eastern part of the State. I was much oppressed by the extreme heat which I encountered, and in order to avoid this, I made my visitation earlier this year, and in consequence, have visited quite a large number of Parishes twice, since our last Convention. And because of this, I have been kept from visiting other Parishes, which I hope to reach within the next few weeks. My first record commences where our Convention was held. On Saturday evening, May 13th, in *St. Luke's Church, Tarboro,* after Evening Prayer by Rev. J. B. Cheshire, and Rev. Messrs. Perry

and Brady, I preached, confirmed six persons and addressed them.

Sunday, May 14th, in *Calvary Church, Tarboro,* I preached, confirmed eight persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion.

At night, presided at a missionary meeting, in the same Church, made an address, and afterwards used the closing offices, in connection with the adjournment of the Convention. On Tuesday, May 16th, in *Trinity Church, Scotland Neck,* I preached, confirmed seven persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion.

The Rev. Mr. Hilton, Rector of the Parish, met with a painful accident, on his way home from the Convention, which confined him to the house for some time, and prevented him from being present at the service in Trinity Church, and also from joining in the interesting exercises of the next day at Hamilton, where he also has charge.

Wednesday, May 17th, Consecrated *St. Martin's Church, Hamilton.* The request to Consecrate, coupled with deed of donation, was read by Mr. R. H. Everett, and the sentence of Consecration by the Rev. Dr. Watson, who also preached the sermon. Morning Prayer was said by the Rev. L. Eborn, and I celebrated the Holy Communion. It was indeed a day of sincere rejoicing to us all, for here was the fruition and crowning glory of many years of earnest, faithful labors, on the part of the little flock, who had struggled on, amid many difficulties and discouragements. They now have their reward in a chaste, beautiful and most appropriate edifice, which is itself an impressive sermon to every worshipper. At night, I preached in the same Church, confirmed eight persons and addressed them.

Ascension Day, May 18th, in the *Church of the Advent, Williamston,* Rev. Dr Watson preached the sermon, and I celebrated the Holy Communion. At night, I preached, confirmed five persons and addressed them. Friday, May 19th, in *Union*

Chapel, Jamesville, I preached, confirmed one person, and administered the Holy Communion. Here, and at Williamston, I was assisted in the services by Rev. Mr. Haughton.

Saturday, May 20th, in *Trinity Church, Beaufort Co.*, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

Sunday after Ascension Day, May 21st, in *St. Peter's Church, Washington*, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. At night preached again, confirmed ten persons and addressed them. Rev. N. Harding, the Rector, assisted in the services.

Monday, May 22d, in the school-house at *Aurora*, I preached and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Rev. N. C. Hughes, Jr. Tuesday, May 23d, in *St. John's, Durham's Creek*, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. Wednesday, May 24th, in *St. Thomas' Church, Bath*, I baptised an adult, confirmed him, preached and administered the Holy Communion, Rev. N. C. Hughes, Jr., assisting in the services.

Thursday, May 25th, in *Zion Church, Beaufort Co.*, I preached, confirmed three persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion, Revs. N. Harding and N. C. Hughes, Jr., assisting.

Friday, May 26th, in the Disciple's Meeting House at *Pantego*, I said Evening Prayer and preached. Whitsun-day, May 28th, in *St. James' Church, Beaufort Co.*, I conducted the service, preached, and administered the Holy Communion. This Parish, together with Bath and Zion Church, had recently become vacant, by the removal of Rev. L. Eborn to St. David's, Washington Co., and I regret to say that, up to this time, the vacancy continues. They had good hopes, at my recent visit, of a speedy supply.

The next day, I continued my journey to Hyde Co., and on Wednesday, May 31, in *St. John's Church, Makelysville*, I preached, confirmed three persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion, Rev. S. S. Barber assisting in the service.

Thursday, June 1st, in the Court House at *Swan Quarter*, after Evening Prayer by Rev. S. S. Barber, I preached, confirmed two persons and addressed them.

Friday, June 2nd, I confirmed one person in private, before leaving Swan Quarter. The same morning, in a School House at *Juniper Bay*, I preached and confirmed one person. Mr. Barber is holding regular services at Swan Quarter and Juniper Bay, and at the latter place, he hopes soon to erect a plain Chapel, which is greatly needed in that neighborhood. In the afternoon, at a private house, on my way to *Lake Landing*, I baptized three infants.

Trinity Sunday, June 4th, in *St. George's Church, Lake Landing*, Rev. Mr. Barber conducted the Service. I baptized five infants, preached, confirmed thirteen persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. This Parish, I found still vacant, but about two months later it was supplied by the removal to this Diocese of Rev. T. M. Thorpe, who has been doing efficient service in the Parish.

These services in Hyde Co. completed my visitation in the Eastern part of the State, and I returned at once to Raleigh.

On Thursday, June 8th, I was present at the Commencement exercises of St. Mary's School, and made an address to the graduating class. I was much struck by the superior excellence and high tone of the essays which were read; while all the exercises proved very clearly that there has been an advance, rather than a falling off from the elevated standard which has so long distinguished this noble institution. Friday, June 9th, left for Fayetteville. Saturday, June 10, in *St. Joseph's Church*, after Evening Prayer by Rev. A. A. Benton and Rev. Dr. Huske, I preached, confirmed three persons and addressed them.

Sunday, June 11th, in *Christ Church, Rockfish*, I preached, confirmed thirteen persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion, assisted in the services by Rev. Mr. Benton. At night in *St. John's Church, Fayetteville*, after Evening Prayer

by Rev. Dr. Huske, I preached, confirmed fourteen persons, and addressed them. Also, on the previous evening, confirmed, in private, a sick member of the same Parish. Second Sunday after Trinity, June 18th, in *St. Bartholomew's Church, Pittsboro*, after Morning Prayer by Dr. Marshall and Mr. Joyner, I preached, confirmed six persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion.

In the afternoon, in the school-room of *St. Luke's Mission* for the colored people, I preached, confirmed eight persons and addressed them.

At night took part in the service at *St. Bartholomew's Church*, and Dr. Marshall preached.

I was much gratified by the successful effort which has been in progress here for extending the knowledge and privileges of the Church among the colored people. The encouragement is so great that I have just placed a colored Clergyman there, to keep up regular ministrations.

Since my last visit to Pittsboro, the Parish has sustained a heavy loss, in the death of its Senior Warden, Mr. Henry A. London. He was a man greatly beloved and respected, and full of zeal for the Church, and devotion to its interests. He was an honor to the Diocese, and one whose memory will be long and tenderly cherished.

Third Sunday after Trinity, June 25th, in *Christ Church New Berne*, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Mr. Shields, I preached, confirmed fifteen persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. At night, in *St. Cyprian's Church*, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Cassey, I preached, confirmed nine persons and addressed them. Wednesday, June 28th, in *St. Paul's Church, Beaufort*, I preached, confirmed five persons and addressed them.

Friday, June 30th, in the Baptist House of Worship, *Snow Hill*, after Morning Prayer by Rev. I. Harding, I preached, confirmed

two persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion.

Fourth Sunday after Trinity, July 2nd, in *St. Mary's Church, Kinston*, preached, confirmed eight persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. At night, a service was held more especially for the benefit of the colored people, and I preached to a large and attentive congregation. The Rector, Rev. Israel Harding, assisted in the services, both morning and evening.

Fifth Sunday after Trinity, July 9th, in *St. Mark's Church, Deep River*, I preached, confirmed five persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. At night I preached in a hall at *Sanford*, confirmed two persons and addressed them. Rev. Mr. Joyner assisted in the service both morning and evening.

Sixth Sunday after Trinity, July 16th, visited *St. John's Hospital, Raleigh*, in the afternoon; made an address to the inmates, and had prayers in the sick ward. Rev. Mr. Rich accompanied me.

This much needed institution, so worthy the sympathy and encouragement of all Christian people, is doing, in an unostentatious way, a most important charitable work. Its value is becoming more and more appreciated every day. Its usefulness will be greatly enlarged, when a fuller and more reliable support is assured. I am glad to know that a similar institution is in successful progress here in Charlotte. These practical illustrations of the great law of charity, are specially worthy our fostering care and zealous co-operation.

Tuesday, July 18th, left Raleigh to enter upon my Western visitation. Thursday, July 20th, in *St. James' Church, Lenoir*, I baptized an infant, preached, confirmed one person, and administered the Holy Communion. The Rev. J. Huske assisted in the service. The Rector, the Rev. F. L. Bush, had become disabled, by disease, and was absent at the time of my visitation.

Later, he resigned the Parish, and went to the North in the hope of securing a permanent recovery. His sojourn seemed to produce the most beneficial results, and he found his health apparently so well re-established, that he consented, in December last, to undertake the Rectorship of *St. Stephen's Church, Oxford.* He labored there most faithfully and successfully, but I regret to hear, has suffered lately from a renewal of his malady, and is at this time disabled from duty. In the afternoon, I left Lenoir for Hickory, and made a detour from the main road, in order to visit and confirm, in his humble cabin, an aged and infirm man. Friday, July 21st, in the *Church of the Ascension, Hickory,* after Evening Prayer by Rev. J. Huske, I preached and confirmed one person. Sunday, July 23rd, in *Grace Church, Morganton,* the Rector Rev. S. P. Watters said Morning Prayer, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. At night, preached again, confirmed four persons and addressed them. It afforded me much satisfaction to find such an improved condition of things in this Parish, and I feel assured that the prudence, fidelity and zeal of the Rector will be rewarded with the happiest results.

Tuesday, July 24th, in the Court House at *Marion,* I preached, confirmed one person, and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Rev. Mr. Bland, who is in charge of the work there. He is now making vigorous efforts to secure the erection of a plain Church edifice, which is very much needed. Wednesday, July 26th, I was driven over to Rutherfordton, where, on the following day, I conducted the service, preached and administered the Holy Communion. This Parish has become very much weakened, and has been now for a long time, without any regular services. I have used every means to secure a supply, but thus far without any success.

Friday, July 28th, I was driven over to Tryon City, Polk Co., where the Rev. Milnor Jones, then of Spartanburg, S. C., had been engaged in zealous missionary efforts. On Sunday

July 30th, in a plain Union Chapel in *Tryon City*, Mr. Jones conducted the service. I preached, confirmed thirteen persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. Great interest was shown in the service. The next day, deeds were sent me from two parties, giving for the use of the Church three acres of land, eligibly situated, and the Rev. Mr. Jones, who has been transferred to this Diocese, is now engaged in erecting a Church there. On Sunday afternoon, I accompanied the Missionary, each of us mounted on a mule, several miles, through the mountain forests to a plain cabin, in a small clearing, where I confirmed an aged woman, in her 103d year, and at the same time, her two daughters, one aged seventy, and the other sixty. None of these people had known anything of our Church until a few months before, and it was most cheering to witness the simple and earnest faith with which her sacred teachings were accepted. Mr. Jones has traveled all over the County, on foot, preaching from house to house, and awakening a deep interest and sympathy in the Church and her services. Monday, July 31st, I organized the Mission of the Holy Cross in Tryon City, and paid visits to several families in the neighborhood. Left the same evening, by train, for Flat Rock.

Tuesday, Aug. 1st, in *St. John's in the Wilderness, Flat Rock*, I preached and confirmed one person, assisted in the service by Rev. J. G. Drayton.

Wednesday, Aug. 2nd, in *St. John's Church, Hendersonville*, I preached, confirmed four persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion; the Rev. Mr. Osborne and Rev. Mr. Drayton assisting in the Services. Thursday Aug 3rd, in *Calvary Church, Henderson Co.*, preached, confirmed two persons, and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Rev. Mr. Osborne. Went the same evening to Asheville, and on Saturday, Aug. 5th, proceeded on to Warm Springs.

Sunday, Aug. 6th, in a large hall arranged for the service, I read Morning Prayer, preached and administered the Holy

Communion. We had a very large and attentive congregation. At 5 P. M., I held an evening service, and baptized two infants. Returned the next day to Asheville.

Sunday, Aug. 13th, in the Court House at *Asheville*, I preached, confirmed six persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion, the Rev. Dr. Buxton assisting in the services.

In the afternoon, in a hall near the French Broad Bridge, Dr. Buxton conducted a short service, I made a brief address on Confirmation, confirmed three persons and addressed them. An hour later, in Trinity Chapel, for colored people, after Evening Prayer by Dr. Buxton and Mr. Berry, I preached, confirmed eight persons and addressed them. Immediately afterwards, I confirmed a sick member of the class, at her father's residence.

Monday, Aug. 14th, left for Brevard.

Tuesday, Aug. 15th, in *St. Paul's in the Valley*, near Brevard, I preached, confirmed two persons and administered the Holy Communion.

At night, I preached in the Methodist Chapel at *Brevard*, the Rev. Dr. Buel assisting in the services, both morning and evening. Wednesday, Aug. 16th, I went to Cashier's Valley, in company with Dr. Buel, and the next day, Aug. 17th, in a school-house neatly prepared for the purpose, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. Rev. Mr. Bynum who was officiating, as Evangelist in that vicinity, came with Rev. Mr. Deal, and met us at Cashier's Valley. They, together with Dr. Buel, assisted in the service.

And in this connection I may say that Mr. Bynum's work, as an Evangelist, has heen highly appreciated, and I trust has been productive of great good. He has been cordially welcomed, wherever he has made his visits, and in many places around, a strong spirit of inquiry has been awakened in regard to the position and teachings of the Church, and an earnest desire to enjoy the benefit of stated Church services. If we only had well instructed missionaries, and the means wherewith to sustain them, so that

we could follow up the good impressions thus made, the most encouraging results would certainly be witnessed. Friday, August 18th, I accompanied Dr. Buel to the residence of Mr. Davies, Cullowhee P. O., on the road toward Webster; and on Saturday, August 19th, we proceeded six miles, to East La Porte, where a service had been appointed. We found a large and attentive congregation gathered, who showed much interest in the services. Dr. Buel read Morning Prayer and baptized an infant, and I preached. In the evening we traveled on ten miles further, to the neighborhood of Webster. Sunday, August 20th, in the Court House at *Webster*, Dr. Buel conducted the service and baptized an adult. I baptized two infants, preached, confirmed one person, and administered the Holy Communion. The next day, we went to Waynesville, and on Sunday, August 27th, in *Grace Church in the Mountains*, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Dr. Buel and Rev. Dr. Hall of Brooklyn, I preached, confirmed eight persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. In the afternoon, at *Mica Dale*, three miles from Waynesville, I preached under the shade of some large trees, the building in which we usually held our service, being too small to contain the congregation. I am glad to say that a Church building is now in process of erection. Monday, August 28th, returned to Asheville, and on Thursday, August 31st, left for *Old Fort*. Friday, September 1st, in a room used for our services, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Mr. Bland, I preached and confirmed one person. The same evening I took the train for Raleigh. After a few days at home, I left, on Thursday, September 7th, on a visit to one of my sons, who resides in California, and also to look after some important private interests, which required my personal attention. I was accompanied on my journey by my youngest daughter. The journey occupied about eight days, and was broken at Chicago, where we passed Sunday, September 10th. We resumed our journey at noon on

Monday, and reached San Francisco the following Saturday morning.

Sunday, September 17th, I preached and administered the Holy Communion in Trinity Church, of which I had charge when summoned to my present field of labour. It was pleasant to renew these associations of the past, and to take by the hand so many old friends, for whom I still entertain the warmest affection. On Tuesday, we went to my son's residence, in Napa Valley, near the town of St. Helena, where we remained about three weeks.

Sunday, September 24th, in *Grace Memorial Church, St. Helena,* which was then without a Rector, I conducted the service, preached and administered the Holy Communion.

The following Sunday, October 1st, in *Christ Church, Napa City,* in the same valley, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

Sunday, October 8th, I again conducted the service in Grace Church, St. Helena. The latter part of that week we returned to San Francisco, where, on Sunday, October 15th, I preached and administered the Holy Communion in Trinity Church, in the morning; and preached at night in the Church of the Advent.

This trip to California proved an extremely pleasant one, and I found myself greatly strengthened and invigorated by the journey. On the evening of Wednesday, October 18th, we took the train, on our return to the East, varying the journey by a detour through Denver and St. Louis.

We reached Denver on Saturday evening, and on Sunday October 22nd, I assisted in the service, at the Cathedral, in the morning, and preached in the evening. The Cathedral is a very attractive building, and the service, which is partly choral, was extremely solemn and impressive. I was struck not only with the size of the congregation, at both services, but with the very large number of men, who by their serious and reverential demeanor, seemed to manifest an unusual interest in the worship.

I was disappointed at not meeting my esteemed friend, the Bishop of Colorado, but he was absent from home, in the discharge of some missionary duty.

We left, on Monday evening, for St. Louis, where we passed a pleasant day, made all the more attractive by the kind courtesies showed us by the Bishop of Missouri. We reached Philadelphia on Friday, October 27th, and the next day we went on to New York. On the following Tuesday, I was present, in the Chancel of St. Paul's, New York, on the interesting occasion, when the Presiding Bishop of our Church celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his Consecration as Bishop. On All Saints' Day, November 1st, in the Chapel of the General Theological Seminary, I took part in the service connected with the matriculation of the Junior Class, and assisted in the administration of the Holy Communion. Sunday, November 5th, in *St. John's Church, Waterbury, Conn.*, I preached and administered the Holy Communion in the morning, and preached again in the evening.

The same week, I returned to Raleigh, and on Wednesday, November 15th, entered upon my Autumnal visitation.

Thursday, November, 16th, in *St. Luke's, Gaston*, I preached and administered the Holy Communion, assisted in the service by Rev. G. Higgs.

Friday, November 17th, in *Emmanuel Church, Warrenton*, after Morning Prayer by Mr. Higgs, I preached, confirmed two persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion.

Saturday, November 19th, in *Church of the Good Shepherd, Ridgeway*, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

The Rev. Mr. Pettigrew assisted in the service, and in the afternoon accompanied me to a private house near Middleburg, where I confirmed a sick person. Sunday, November 19th, in the *Church of the Holy Innocents, Henderson*, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. In the evening preached again, confirmed ten persons and addressed them. Rev. J. E. Ingle assisted in the services.

Tuesday, November 21st, in *St. Stephen's Church, Oxford*, after Morning Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Ingle, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. Preached again in the evening, confirmed four persons, and addressed them. At the time of my visit, the Parish was vacant, the Rev. Mr. Vaughan having removed to Maryland; but only a few weeks later, the Rev. Mr. Bush entered upon the discharge of its duties. I trust that his removal at this time, may prove only temporary, and that, with restored health, he may soon resume his labours. Thursday, November 23rd, in *St. Peter's Church, Sassafras Fork*, the Rev. Mr. Pettigrew, conducted the service and I preached.

Friday, November 24th, in *St. John's, Williamsboro*, I preached, and administered the Holy Communion, the Rector, Rev. Mr. Pettigrew, assisting in the services.

Sunday, November 26th, preached, in *St. James' Church, Kittrell*, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Mr. Holmes. I had an appointment for the evening at Louisburg, but a cold taken two days before had brought on so severe an attack of Bronchitis, that I did not feel it would be possible for me to undertake another service.

I deeply regretted the disappointment, but hope very soon to pay a visit to the Parish. I had an appointment for the following Tuesday in the neighborhood of Wake Forest, and this appointment I also recalled. And I the less regretted this, as the day proved very stormy and disagreeable, so that no congregation could have gathered. It is my intention to go there when I visit Louisburg. I returned home from Kittrell on Monday. Fortunately there was a break of several days in my appointments, so that I had a better opportunity to recover the use of my voice.

On Saturday, December 2nd, I left for *Greensboro*, and the next day, Sunday, December 3rd, in *St. Barnabas' Church*, after Morning Prayer by Rev. A. H. Stubbs, I made a brief address and administered the Holy Communion. At the second service

in the afternoon, I was able to preach, without any serious inconvenience.

The next morning, I went to *Reidsville*, and at night, in the Baptist House of Worship, after Evening Prayer by Rev. J. T. Clark, I preached, made an address explanatory of Confirmation, and confirmed one person.

Tuesday, December 5th, left for Leaksville, by way of Danville, going nearly all the way by rail.

Wednesday, December 6th, in the *Church of the Epiphany, Leaksville*, I preached, confirmed two persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion, assisted in the service by Rev. J. T. Clark. Went the next day to Col. Cuningham's, Person Co., where I found a very neat Chapel which had been provided for service, during the previous season.

The work was done entirely at the expense of Col. Cuningham. Friday, December 8th, held the first service in the Chapel. Rev. W. E. Webbe, of Virginia, read Morning Prayer. I preached, confirmed one person, and administered the Holy Communion.

Second Sunday in Advent, December 10th, in *Trinity Church, Statesville*, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. At night, preached again, confirmed three persons and addressed them. Rev. J. Huske assisted in the services.

Tuesday, December 12th, in *St. Luke's, Lincolnton*, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Messrs. W. S. Bynum and W. R. Wetmore, I preached, confirmed ten persons, and addressed them. It gave me much pleasure to observe the decided evidences of increased interest and prosperity in this Parish.

Friday, December 15th, in *St. Peter's Church, Charlotte*, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Cheshire and Quin, I preached, confirmed sixteen persons and addressed them. Third Sunday in Advent, December 17th, in *St. Athanasius' Church, Company Shops*, after Morning Prayer by Rev. W. S. Bynum, I preached, confirmed three persons, and administered the Holy Communion. Left the next day for Baltimore and New York, and thence for

Hartford, Conn., where, on Thursday, December 21st, I assisted Bishop Williams of Connecticut, in the marriage of my youngest son.

Returned to New York the next day.

Fourth Sunday in Advent, December 24th, in *Christ Church, East Orange, New Jersey*, I preached at the morning service. A generous lady of the Parish, learning from me of the interesting mission work going on in Polk Co., kindly handed me $100 to aid in the erection of a Church at Tryon City.

The next day, being the Feast of the Nativity, in the same Church, after Morning Prayer by the Rector, Rev. H. S. Bishop, I made an address appropriate to the day, and administered the Holy Communion.

Sunday after Christmas, in *Memorial Church, Providence, R. I.*, preached both morning and evening.

Thursday, January 4th, in *Trinity Chapel, Boston*, I attended a meeting, called in the interest of the freedmen, and made an address in behalf of the effort, in which we are now engaged, to establish a Theological Department in connection with St. Augustine's Normal School, at Raleigh. On the following Sunday, January 7th, in *Grace Church, New York*, I made an address, on the same subject, and afterward preached and administered the Holy Communion.

In the afternoon, I crossed over to Brooklyn, and at night, after Evening Prayer in *St. Ann's Church*, I presented the same subject to the notice of a large congregation. I can but trust that our brethren in the North will realize the claims of this important object, and give us such help as may enable us to carry out successfully our plans for the spiritual improvement and moral elevation of the colored race. The same week I returned to Raleigh. Wednesday, January 23rd, attended a meeting of the Missionary Committee of the Diocese, and also of the Executive Committee of St. Augustine's Normal School. Sexagesima

Sunday, January 28th, I preached in the *Church of the Good Shepherd.*

Wednesday, January 31st, in the same Church, officiated at the marriage of my eldest daughter, assisted by Rev. Mr. Rich. Quinquagesima Sunday, February 4th, in the Chapel of St. Mary's School, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

First Sunday in Lent, February 11th, I preached in the *Church of the Good Shepherd.*

Friday, February 16th, in *St. Philip's Church, Durham,* after Evening Prayer by Rev. J. Huske, I preached, confirmed four persons, and addressed them.

Sunday, February 18th, in *Chapel of the Cross, Chapel Hill,* I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

At night preached again, confirmed two persons and addressed them, the Rev. J. Huske assisting in the services. It afforded me much gratification to find this Church and the one at Durham, regularly supplied, after so long a vacancy. The Rev. Mr. Huske has been very cordially received at both places, and I trust his ministrations will be attended by the most abundant success. I much lamented the vacancy occasioned at Statesville and Hickory by his removal, but I have good hope that these congregations will soon be satisfactorily supplied.

Third Sunday in Lent, February 25th, in *St. Augustine's Church, Raleigh,* I confirmed two persons, preached, and admitted to the Diaconate, on presentation by Rev. J. E. C. Smedes, Mr. Henry Mason Joseph, one of the Instructors in St. Augustine's Normal School. I also administered the Holy Communion.

Monday, February 26th, visited St. John's Hospital, and had a short service. On the following Thursday, March 1st, I left to enter upon my Spring Visitation.

The same evening, in *Grace Church, Weldon,* I preached, confirmed two persons and addressed them. Rev. Dr. Smith and Rev. Mr. Higgs assisted in the service.

Friday, March 2d, I preached in *St. Mark's Church, Halifax,* after Evening Prayer by Dr. Smith. Sunday, March 4th, in *Church of the Advent, Enfield,* I preached, confirmed one person and administered the Holy Communion, Rev. Dr. Smith assisting in the service.

Tuesday, March 6th, in *St. Clement's Church, Ringwood,* after Morning Prayer by Dr. Smith, I preached, confirmed one person and administered the Holy Communion.

Thursday, March 8th, in the Baptist House of Worship, *Snow Hill,* I conducted the service, preached, confirmed three persons, addressed them, and administerd the Holy Communion. It gratified me to notice here a re-awakened interest in behalf of the Church. An eligible lot has been secured for the erection of a Church building, which will be urged forward with the least possible delay.

Friday, March 9th, took part in the morning service at *Christ Church, New Berne.*

At night, in *St. Cyprian's Church,* I baptized two adults, preached, confirmed seven persons and addressed them. The Rev. Mr. Shields assisted in the service. The Rev. Mr. Cassey, who is officiating regularly in this Church, was absent in New York, where he had gone, with my approval, to solicit some aid in carrying forward an important educational work, in connection with St. Cyprian's Church.

Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 11th, in *Christ Church, New Berne,* I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

At night preached again, confirmed nine persons, and addressed them. The Rev. Mr. Shields assisted in the services.

Monday, March 12th, went in the morning to *Beaufort,* and in the afternoon, in a school-house, held a service for the colored people, assisted by Rev. Mr. Forbes. I preached and confirmed three persons. At night, in *St. Paul's Church,* after Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Forbes, I preached, confirmed nine persons, and addressed them.

Wednesday, March 14th, in *St. Mary's, Kinston,* I preached, confirmed five persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion. At night the service was more especially for the benefit of the colored people, one-half the Church being reserved for them; when I preached and confirmed two colored persons. Rev. Israel Harding took part in both services.

Thursday, March 15th, in the same Church, I held a special service, in the afternoon, and confirmed four persons. Left soon after for Goldsboro. Friday, March 16th, in *St. Stephen's Church, Goldsboro,* after a Litany Service by Rev. G. W. Dame, I made an address.

At night, after Evening Prayer by the Rector, I preached, confirmed three persons and addressed them. Sunday before Easter, March 18th, in *St. James' Church, Wilmington,* I preached, confirmed six persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion. Rev. Dr. Watson, Rev. G. W. Stickney, of South Carolina, and Rev. A. DeR. Meares assisted in the service.

At night, in *St. Paul's Church,* I preached, confirmed four persons and addressed them. One of the candidates was from St. James' and one from St. John's Church. Monday, March 19th, confirmed in private a sick person belonging to St James' Parish. At night in *St. Mark's Church,* after Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Ambler and Mr. Brady, I preached, confirmed seventeen persons, and addressed them.

Tuesday, March 20th, in *St. Philip's Church, Smithville,* I baptized an infant, preached, confirmed two persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. The Rev. A. DeR. Meares, who officiates regularly at Smithville, assisted in the service.

At night, I preached in *St. John's Church, Wilmington.* I found this congregation without a Rector, the Rev. Mr. Pitts having resigned some months before, and the efforts made to secure a successor have thus far proved unsuccessful. I trust it may not be long before this vacancy is supplied.

Thursday, March 22d, in *Church of the Good Shepherd, Rocky Mount*, after Morning Prayer by Rev. B. S. Bronson, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

Proceeded in the afternoon to *Tarboro*, and at night, in *St. Luke's Church*, I preached, confirmed three persons, and addressed them. The Rev. Messrs. W. J. Smith and Perry assisted in the service.

Good Friday, March 23d, I preached in *Calvary Church, Tarboro*, in the morning, and at night preached again, confirmed eleven persons and addressed them. The Rev. Dr. Cheshire and Rev. Mr. Smith assisted in the services. Easter Even, took part in the morning service at Calvary Church, and left in the afternoon for Wilson.

Easter Day, March 25th, in *St. Timothy's Church, Wilson*, preached and administered the Holy Communion.

In the afternoon, I took part in a very interesting Sunday School celebration, and made an address. At night preached, confirmed two persons and addressed them. Rev. Mr. Bronson, assisted in all the services.

At a very early hour, on Monday morning, I took the train for Goldsboro and thence to Raleigh, reaching home about 8:30 A. M. I spent the day with my family, and left the next morning for Norfolk. On Wednesday, March 28th, I took the train for Elizabeth City and was joined by Rev. Dr. Barten of Norfolk, who very kindly consented to accompany me.

Thursday, March 29th, in *Christ Church, Elizabeth City*, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Mr. Kiernan and Dr. Barten, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

At night, I took part in the service, and the Rev. Dr. Barten preached. Friday, March 30th, in *St. John's Church, Newbegun Creek*, Rev. Dr. Barten conducted the service, and I preached. At night I preached in *Christ Church, Elizabeth City*.

Saturday, March 31st, I conducted the service and preached in *St. Joseph's Church, Camden*.

First Sunday after Easter, April 1st, I consecrated the new and beautiful Church, recently erected at South Mills, under the name of the Church of St. John the Evangelist. The request for Consecration, coupled with deed of donation, was read by Mr. C. R. Van de Carr, and the Sentence of Consecration by Rev. R. B. Drane, who also read Morning Prayer. I preached the sermon, and administered the Holy Communion. The Church was much crowded on this very interesting occasion. At night I baptized two adults and five infants, preached, confirmed six persons, and addressed them. For the success of this work, we are indebted to two zealous laymen, Col. D. D. Ferebee and Mr. C. R. Van de Carr. The latter gentleman is engaged in manufacturing interests there, and was able to secure very liberal contributions from members of his own family, and other wealthy friends in New York. The Church is one of the most beautiful and attractive Church edifices in the State. I hope soon to find a zealous young Clergyman to undertake the interesting mission field which is there open to us, and where a pleasant home, with a comfortable support is assured.

The next morning, I organized a mission there, under our Canon, and appointed the proper officers. Tuesday, April 3rd, in the *Church of Holy Trinity, Hertford,* after Morning Prayer by Rev. Mr. Drane, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. I found this Parish without any Rector, the Rev. J. A. Weston having resigned the charge. Since my visit, I have sent to them the Rev. Charles Stewart, of Louisiana, who is now temporarily supplying the Parish. The Rev. Mr. Weston is still in the Diocese, and will doubtless soon be established in one of the fields of labour, to which he has been invited.

The same evening, after my visit to Hertford, I preached in *St. Paul's Church, Edenton,* confirmed five persons and addressd them.

The next morning, April 4th, in the same Church, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

At night, in the *Church of St. John the Evangelist*, I preached and confirmed one person. In all these services I was assisted by the Rev. R. B. Drane, Rector of St. Paul's Parish.

Friday, April 6th, in *Grace Church, Plymouth*, I was assisted in the services by Rev. Mr. Drane and Rev. L. Eborn. I preached, confirmed two persons, and administered the Holy Communion. Preached again in the evening. This Parish is still without a Rector, and has recently sustained a heavy loss in the sudden death of Mr. R. S. Goelet, for many years its faithful Lay Reader and its generous and liberal supporter. Until supplied with a Rector, Rev. Mr. Drane is giving them a monthly service.

Saturday, April 7th, in company with Rev Mr. Eborn, I took part in a funeral service, in *St. Luke's Church, Washington Co.*, and then, after Morning Prayer, preached, confirmed five persons and administered the Holy Communion.

Here is another vacancy, which I am most anxious to have supplied.

Second Sunday after Easter, April 8th, in *St. David's Church, Washington Co.*, after Morning Prayer by the Rector, Rev. L. Eborn, I preached, confirmed six persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion.

Monday, April 9th, in *St. Andrew's Church, Columbia*, after Prayers by Rev. Mr. Eborn, I preached, confirmed one person and administered the Holy Communion.

Wednesday, April 11th, in Union Chapel, *Jamesville*, I preached, confirmed one person and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Rev. Mr. Haughton.

At night, in the *Church of the Advent, Williamston*, I said Evening Prayer, baptized an adult, preached, confirmed two persons and addressed them. Rev. Mr. Haughton was called off on other duty. The next day, in same Church, I preached and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Mr. Haughton. Friday, 13th, in *St. Martin's Church, Hamilton*, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

At night preached again and confirmed one person. Rev. Mr. Hilton assisted in the services.

Saturday, April 14th, went to Scotland Neck, and in the afternoon, confirmed an aged and infirm person, at his residence, several miles in the country.

Sunday, April 15th, in *Trinity Church, Scotland Neck,* after Morning Prayer by the Rev. C. Stewart and Rev. Mr. Hilton, I preached, confirmed five persons, and administered the Holy Communion. In the afternoon, in private, confirmed a sick person.

At night, in Pitman's Hall, some two miles from the Parish Church, I preached to a very large congregation.

Monday, April 16th, in the new *St. Mary's Chapel,* near *Hickory Fork, Edgecombe Co.,* I held the first service. The building, which promises to be a very neat and churchly one, is not yet entirely completed. Rev. Mr. Hilton and Rev. Walter J. Smith conducted the service. I preached, and confirmed one person. The result accomplished here reflects great credit on Rev. Mr. Smith, and those who have so zealously co-operated with him. Quite a number of sympathizing friends came out from Tarboro, to participate in the service. The morning was quite pleasant, but the evening brought a very heavy and continuous rain, through which I was driven, in a well protected carriage, about 25 miles, to Greenville.

Tuesday, April 17th, in *St. Paul's, Greenville,* after Morning Prayer by Rev. Mr. Hughes, I preached, confirmed one person, and administered the Holy Communion. Directly after the service, I confirmed, in private, an aged and infirm person.

Wednesday, April 18th, in *St. John's, Pitt Co.,* I preached, confirmed twelve persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by the Rector, Rev. Israel Harding.

Thursday, April 19th, in *Trinity Church, Beaufort Co.,* I preached, confirmed two persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. Rev. N. C. Hughes, his son, and

Rev. I. and N. Harding assisted in the services. Friday, April 20th, in *St. John's, Durham's Creek*, I preached and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Rev. N. C. Hughes, Jr. Sunday, April 22nd, in *St. Peter's Church, Washington*, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. At night I preached again, confirmed thirteen persons, and addressed them. Rev. N. C. Hughes and Rev. N. Harding assisted in the services.

Monday, April 23rd, I had an appointment for Zion Church, but the day was so very stormy and disagreeable, that no congregation assembled. I regretted that it was so, inasmuch as the congregation is without any minister, and they have had but few services during the past year.

The next day, Tuesday, April 24th, in *St. Thomas' Church, Bath*, I was assisted in the service by Mr. Fenner Stickney, who has been acting there as Lay Reader, in the absence of a minister. I preached, confirmed three persons and administered the Holy Communion.

Wednesday, April 25th, in *St. James' Church, Beaufort Co.*, after Morning Prayer by their former Rector, Rev. L. Eborn, I preached, confirmed three persons and administered the Holy Communion.

It has given me great anxiety that these three Parishes—St. James', St. Thomas' and Zion—should all be so long without any Rector. It has been very difficult to find anyone to undertake the duty, with the very insufficient salary which has been provided. At night, I held service in a hall in the village of *Pantego*. Here is an excellent opening for the Church, if an active, zealous man could be found to push forward the work.

The next morning, April 26th, I left at six o'clock on a steamboat for *Makelysville, Hyde Co.*, arriving there at 8:30. At 11 o'clock, after Morning Prayer by Rev. S. S. Barber, I preached, confirmed two persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion.

At night, in the Court House at *Swan Quarter*, I preached, made a brief address, explanatory of Confirmation, and confirmed one person.

Friday, April 27th, in a school-house at *Juniper Bay*, I preached, confirmed one person and administered the Holy Communion. I was assisted in the service by Rev. T. M. Thorpe and Rev. S. S. Barber. Went to *Lake Landing* in the evening, where I baptized a child at a private house.

Sunday, April 29th, in *St. George's Church, Lake Landing*, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Barber and Thorpe, I preached, confirmed eight persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. The congregation was the largest I had ever seen in Hyde Co., and much beyond the capacity of the building. It was a great gratification to make the acquaintance of the new Rector of St. George's, Rev. T. M. Thorpe, who seems to be doing a valuable work in the County. He has been holding services at several different points, and at one of them he is expecting to erect a simple Chapel, during the present season. St. George's Church is also to be enlarged, and fully repaired from the damage which it sustained some two years ago from a tornado. I was much cheered by the encouraging prospects in that part of the Diocese.

I went that evening to Fairfield, accompanied by Rev. Mr. Thorpe, so as to take the steamboat the next morning for Elizabeth City. I was pleased to learn that steps had been taken to secure an eligible lot in Fairfield, upon which to erect a Church.

Monday, April 30th, I invited Mr. Thorpe to go with me to Bertie Co., and we left at 8:30 o'clock, for Elizabeth City.

We had a pleasant trip, tarrying most of the night at one of the landings, and arriving about 8:30 on Tuesday morning. After three hours there, where we met several kind friends, we went by train to Edenton, and thence by steamer to a point where a small steam tug took us to Capehart's fishery. We were warmly welcomed and hospitably entertained at Scotch Hall.

Thursday, May 3rd, Ascension Day, in the *Church of the Holy Innocents, Bertie Co.*, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Thorpe and Wootten, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. The same evening I went on, with Mr. Wootten, to Windsor.

Friday, May 4th, in *St. Thomas' Church, Windsor*, I preached and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Rev. Mr. Wootten. Sunday after Ascension, May 6th, in *Grace Church, Woodville, Bertie Co.*, I preached, confirmed four persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion.

Rev. Mr. Wootten is still in charge of these Churches, in Bertie Co., where he is held in high esteem, and much anxiety was expressed lest he should feel impelled to accept another field of labour, to which he had been invited.

Monday, May 7th, I Consecrated the new Church at *Roxobel*, which I found greatly improved by the addition of a Chancel, since I officiated in it, in its unfinished state, a year ago. It was Consecrated under the name of St. Mark's Memorial Church. The deed of donation, with request to consecrate, was read by Rev. E. Wootten, and the sentence of consecration by Rev. Gilbert Higgs, who also said Morning Prayer. I preached and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Rev. E. Wootten. In the afternoon, we proceeded on to Jackson.

Tuesday, May 8th, in the *Church of Our Saviour, Jackson*, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Higgs and Wootten, I preached, confirmed four persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion.

This service brought my long visitation to a close, and I retnrned the next day to Raleigh. This was one of the most gratifying and successful visitations I have ever made. Although occupying nearly ten weeks, during which there was a great deal of inclement weather, yet only one service was prevented by rain, and not more than three others were materially affected by the weather. Generally it was pleasant at the hours

of service, although heavy rains fell at other hours in the day. The congregations were larger than usual, and a deeper interest was manifested than I have ever seen before. The number of confirmations too, was considerably increased. In fact, during the whole year, I have found abundant cause for encouragement. Our chief trouble seems to be in the considerable number of vacant Parishes, which I find it so hard to supply.

Whitsunday, May 13th, in *St. Augustine's Church, Raleigh*, I confirmed nine persons, after the second lesson, preached, and then admitted to the Holy Order of Deacons, Henry Stephen McDuffey, Primus Priss Alston, and Edward Hezekiah Butler, who had all been trained and instructed in St. Augustine's Normal School. The candidates were presented by Rev. J. E. C. Smedes. Rev. F. M. Hubbard, D. D., was present and took part in the service. He is now doing valuable service, in giving instruction in the Theological Department of St. Augustine's School. I was also assisted in the service by Rev. Messrs. H. M. Joseph, William R. Harris, and H. S. Henderson, colored Deacons, who are at present acting as instructors in St. Augustine's School. The Holy Communion was administered by me. During my absence upon my late visitation, a disastrous fire occurred at St. Augustine's School, resulting in the total loss of several buildings. The fire occurred about 4 P. M. and is supposed to have resulted from a defective flue. The buildings, which were of wood, were near together, and a strong wind blowing at the time, made it impossible to restrain the work of destruction. Nearly everything within the buildings was saved. The two buildings at a distance, the one occupied by the Rector, and the other a large one, purchased for school purposes by the Trustees, some two years ago, were at once given up for immediate occupancy, and have served a good purpose, in affording a temporary shelter, and enabling the work of the school to go on, with but little interruption. An insurance, as large as could be secured on farm buildings, covers in part our loss, and the

Trustees will doubtless take steps, at the annual meeting, to be held here, to re-build in a more substantial way. The noble work which this Institution is accomplishing will, I hope, call out the sympathy and aid which are so much needed, to place the school on a still better foundation.

On the evening of Whitsunday, I visited the *Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh,* preached, confirmed eight persons and addressed them.

Trinity Sunday, May 20th, in *Christ Church, Raleigh,* I preached, confirmed nine persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion. I was assisted in the services by Rev. Drs. Marshall and Hubbard.

In the evening, at the Chapel of St. Mary's School, after Evening Prayer by the Rector, I confirmed nine pupils of the School and addressed them.

The next day, Monday, May 21st, I stopped in *Hillsboro,* on my way to Convention, and in *St. Matthew's Church,* after Evening Prayer by Rev. J. W. Murphy, I preached, confirmed nine persons, and addressed them.

The summary of services for the past year is as follows:

I have visited one hundred and four Parishes and Missionary Stations, and more than twenty of these have had a second visit. I have preached on one hundred and sixty occasions, and have delivered eighty addresses. I have baptized six adults and twenty infants, have confirmed five hundred and thirteen persons, have administered the Holy Communion on ninety-two occasions; have Consecrated three Churches; and have ordained four Deacons.

The following changes have taken place in the position of our clergy:

Rev. F. L. Bush has resigned the charge of St. James' Church, Lenoir, and has become Rector of St. Stephen's, Oxford. The Rev. N. C. Hughes has become Rector of Trinity Church, Beaufort Co., in connection with his previous engagements. The

Rev. C. J. Curtis has retired from the Editorship of the *Church Messenger*, and is acting as Missionary in the Convocation of Charlotte. Rev. E. N. Joyner has become editor of the *Church Messenger*. The Rev. Lucien Holmes has resigned the charge of St. James', Kittrell, and this Parish has been re-united with Louisburg, under the charge of Rev. Dr. Sutton, who has changed his residence to Kittrell. The Rev. John Huske has resigned the Rectorship of Trinity Church, Statesville, and Ascension Church, Hickory; and has taken charge of the Chapel of the Cross, Chapel Hill, and St. Phillip's Mission, Durham. The Rev. Thomas K. Allen has taken charge of St. James' Church, Lenoir, and the Mission work in Caldwell Co. Rev. James A. Weston has resigned the charge of Holy Trinity, Hertford, and St. Mary's, Gatesville. He expects shortly to undertake some other duty in the Diocese.

Among the changes which have taken place, I am sure you will all join with me in a special feeling of regret at the loss of Rev. Mr. Benton. He was a man of such deep devotion to his work and of such superior scholarship that we learned to prize him highly. The professorship to which he has been called, in Delaware College, is in harmony with his tastes, and where I have no doubt he will be eminently useful. He left us with many regrets.

The Rev. Charles Stewart of the Diocese of Louisiana, is officiating, under a temporary engagement, in Trinity Church, Hertford.

The candidates for Priests Orders are fifteen, viz.: Rev. Messrs. T. B. Haughton, S. S. Barber, Geo. H. Bell, C. O. Brady, Nymphas E. Price, Walter J. Smith, B. W. Daugherty, A. DeR. Meares, P. W. Cassey, Henry W. Joseph, Wm. R. Harris, and Messrs. Robert Strange, F. E. Shober, Vardy McBee and Theophilus Overby. The candidates for Deacons Orders are seven, viz.: William F. Rice, Frederick M. Skinner, Junius M. Horner, Walter A. Tillinghast, James H. Postell, St. Clair

Hester, and Edward Philip Green. The Postulants are eleven, viz.: Albert G. Council, Hardy H. Phelps, Timothy E. Cutler, Hamilton Anderson, Percy Roberts Eubanks, James C. Postell, John K. Harding, George H. Landin, Freeman W. Dunn, Mortimer R. Hairston, and Claudius Ferdinand Smith. The number of Clergy now canonically resident in the Diocese is seventy-six, viz.: the Bishop, fifty-three Priests and twenty-two Deacons. There are still several vacancies, which I hope we may soon be able to supply.

Since the meeting of our last Convention, one of our sister Dioceses has been bereaved by the departure from this life of the active and zealous Bishop of Indiana. His place has not yet been supplied.

The whole Anglican Communion has also been called to mourn the death, a few months since, of the venerable and highly esteemed Archbishop of Canterbury. He was a man of great wisdom and prudence, of deep personal piety, and of very remarkable meekness, gentleness and kindliness of spirit. He presided at the last Lambeth Conference, and won the increased respect and confidence of all his brethren, by the very judicious and admirable way in which he sought to guide those deliberations. It should be a matter of profound gratification to us all that this highest office in the Church of England, has been filled by the appointment of a man of remarkable ability, of great administrative gifts, and of earnest Christian zeal.

Long may he be spared to direct the affairs of a Church, which is now daily deepening and strengthening its influence in all parts of the extended British Empire.

And there is another loss, which has come home very closely to the whole American Church, in the removal from a sphere of very great usefulness, of the Rev. Dr. Twing, the Secretary and General Agent of the Domestic Committee of Missions. He was one who seemed very specially fitted for the place, which for so many years he filled with such universal acceptance.

He did more than any man in the Church, to stir up among our people a higher appreciation of missionary work, and a greater zeal in carrying it forward. His name will long be held in tender and loving remembrance.

And, as closely associated with his faithful labours, I may mention the Ladies' Missionary Auxiliary, which I am glad to know has been extending its operations, during the past year, in this Diocese. Our people need to know more about missionary work, and to be shown how they may be helpful in urging it forward. And to this end, I have been happy to learn that the General Secretary of the Ladies' Auxiliary, had consented to be present here during our Convention, and to do what might be in her power, to awaken among the ladies in our Parishes a more active interest in the whole subject of missions. Let me farther add that it afforded much gratification to me, as I feel sure it did to you all, to have participating with us in our opening service yesterday, the Rev. Dr. Nichols, of the English Colonial Diocese of Nova Scotia. These acts of inter-communion between the different branches of the Holy Church of Christ are always cheering and encouraging.

Before closing my address, it is proper that I should say something in regard to the question of a division of this Diocese, which is to be discussed and settled at this Convention. You all know that, last year, I expressed my disapproval of the measure, as one not likely to prove of advantage to the interests of the Church in North Carolina. A fuller and more careful review of the whole subject has only served to deepen and strengthen these convictions. I know that very many of my brethren, of the Clergy and of the Laity, are just as strongly convinced that a division would prove of real advantage. I have no doubt whatever of the entire sincerity and honesty of these convictions. I trust that what we are all aiming at, is to adopt such measures as we may reasonably hope will promote the better the real advancement of the Church. Hence this very serious question ought to

be entered upon and discussed with all calmness, kindness and good feeling. There should be no excitement of bad passions, no imputation of wrong motives, but rather a patient and sober examination of the whole subject, in all its various bearings.

Many, I think, have been misled, in the views which have grown and strengthened in their minds, by a failure to mark the very broad distinction between a large territory and a large Diocese. It is very plain that a small and weak Diocese may be spread out over a widely extended area. And again, a Diocese may be a very large and strong one, when not covering a territory one-fifth the size of North Carolina. All our Missionary jurisdictions occupy large territorial limits, while there are comparatively few congregations of any strength and influence. In many respects, North Carolina resembles one of these Missionary jurisdictions. More than half our Parishes are so weak that they require either some missionary aid, or else two, three, and sometimes four Parishes are united under one Rector, in order to provide for him a very moderate support. Our State is a very peculiar one. We have no large cities within our borders; no strong centres of wealth and of influence. Our people are to a great extent an agricultural people, scattered over a wide district of country. Our population, too, is increasing but slowly, and we have none of that vast influx, which is so marked a feature in many of our Northern and Western States. All this, in a moral point of view, may be a positive advantage to us, but it surely does not give us the material for Church growth, or the means for extending that growth. If we had in the Eastern and in the Western parts of the State, a few large towns and cities, in which no little Church strength was concentrated, and where we could reasonably look for sympathy and co-operation, in the work of Church extension, then our case would be somewhat parallel with that of those Dioceses, which have found division a real advantage. Surely it is a great mistake to speak of North Carolina as a large Diocese. It is only large, because of the

territory which it covers. Even now, with all the united strength which we can command, we find it most difficult to keep many of our Parishes supplied, and to provide the funds, so urgently needed for our wide-spread missionary work. North Carolina is to-day a weak, rather than a strong Diocese, and we need to husband all our resources, and concentrate all our energies, in order to accomplish the work which is here given us to do.

But it is said that no man, even if blessed with the most vigorous health, can possibly discharge the Episcopal duties which are so imperatively needed, in so widely extended a territory. On the contrary, I believe there is no Diocese which has been more thoroughly visited than this. Nearly every Parish and Missionary Station has been reached since our last Convention, and more than twenty have been visited twice, while those that remain will receive a visit within the next few weeks.

The great increase in the facilities of travel, and the ease with which remote points can now be reached, as compared with our condition a few years ago, is gradually lessening the difficulties of our visitations, and rendering that quite feasible, which once would have been well-nigh impossible. And what if some few of our Parishes, or Missionary Stations, should occasionally fail to receive its visit within the year, would the postponement of a few weeks or months, be half so great an evil, as to find themselves in a weak and crippled Diocese, where it is well-nigh impossible to secure the funds which are necessary to carry on its important work? Now, if North Carolina is divided, nothing can be plainer than that we shall have two very weak and feeble Dioceses. And any Diocese which is thus crippled, and which finds it a hard struggle simply to sustain its organization, and meet its necessary expenses, is certainly not in a condition to do any very effective Missionary work. I only wish that I could see any way by which this Diocese might be safely and judiciously divided. I should be too happy to surrender a good share of the territory now committed to my supervision, if I

were not very fully persuaded that such a division would inevitably cripple our energies, and paralyze our efforts. So long as we keep together, we have some little strength. In our annual Conventions, we are cheered and encouraged, and there is a hopefulness which is very grateful to us all. But when divided, we shall soon realize our feebleness, and our hearts will be saddened and discouraged. I am well assured that many who once advocated division, have been convinced, after more careful examination and reflection, that it is by no means wise. At one time, before I thoroughly understood and realized the actual condition of things in this State, I felt that division would be helpful to us, and so gave my cordial assent to it, but a larger experience, and a fuller examination of the whole question, has led me to a different conviction. And that change of view, on this subject, took place long before our late Bishop's sickness and disability. He assured me, at the sitting of the Convention at Raleigh, when this subject of division was postponed, that I would soon become convinced that a division, until we were much stronger, was not expedient.

It was less than a year after this that I saw the matter in a very different light. And you all well know that our late honored Bishop was, himself, at one time, very favourably disposed to division. But later, when he realized more fully the many difficulties in the way, he entirely changed his opinions, and became fully convinced that division would be likely to prove a disastrous experiment. Now we have all of us been accustomed to regard him as a man of much more than ordinary wisdom and sound judgment. Are not, then, his well weighed and considerate opinions worthy our careful consideration? What man had equal opportunities for forming a sound judgment on this whole question? Now, brethren and friends, I do not ask that you should blindly follow him or any other leader, but I do ask that the carefully formed opinions of one whom we respect for his wisdom and prudence, should not be lightly disregarded.

And after all, what urgent reasons are there, why this Diocese should be divided? Is the work of the Church languishing among us? On the contrary, there is a renewed interest and a re-awakened zeal, which seems to be steadily on the increase. The past year has been replete with encouragement. My visitations have been very widely extended, and have proved most cheering to me. The number of confirmations has been greater than usual. I have never preached to larger, more attentive, and apparently more interested congregations. And there is an increased spirit of inquiry abroad, in regard to the teachings the usages, and the principles of the Church.

Our great want is several active, well instructed, practical men, who can work zealously as Evangelists, and who must also be supplemented with a sufficient body of Missionaries, to gather in the harvest. Another Bishop will be of little avail, unless we are able to furnish him with active fellow-labourers, to carry on the work.

But for many years, long before my election to the Episcopate, this idea of a division of the Diocese has been a favorite scheme.

It is, of course, a satisfaction to me to be assured, as I have been on every side, that this preference for division is not prompted, at all, by any discontent with my ministrations, or by any desire to escape from under my jurisdiction. So far from it, I have constantly received the warmest assurances of personal attachment, and have been everywhere welcomed with the greatest kindness and affection. But there is a sentiment, which has taken deep root in the hearts of many, that a new Diocese would have the effect to secure the most wonderful advancement. How such a result can be accomplished, without the addition of a considerable body of active, working men, and the means necessary to sustain them, is more than I am able to understand.

But, dear brethren of the Clergy and of the Laity, not to dwell longer on this important subject, let me say, in conclusion, that while I have thus sought to express, plainly and clearly,

my sober and serious convictions, I have no desire to force my own views upon the Diocese. I only wish that whatever is done, may be done advisedly, and after the most careful and patient deliberation.

If it shall then appear that a large majority of the Clergy and of the Laity are persuaded that a division is really desirable, I shall most cordially accept the decision. I have it not in my heart to place myself in a position of antagonism with those, over whom the Providence of God has placed me. We must work together, in harmony, in unity and in love.

If division shall be determined on, I sincerely trust that its ardent advocates may not be disappointed in the results, which they so confidently anticipate.

As for myself, whether my field of labor remain co-extensive with the State, or whether it be more circumscribed, I shall give you my heartiest co-operation, and be ready, as in the past, to bestow my humble but earnest endeavors, for the upbuilding of the Kingdom of God.

And may that blessed Spirit, "from whom all holy desires, all good counsels and all just works do proceed," may He vouchsafe His presence in the midst of us, and guide us to such conclusions as may most conduce to the glory of God, and to the welfare of His Holy Church. "O pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee."

THEODORE B. LYMAN.